

**From:** BAUER, LINDSEY <LINDSEY.BAUER@new-haven.k12.ct.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:28 AM  
**To:** AppropriationTestimony  
**Subject:** Arts Funding

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Good Morning,

I am a teacher at the Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School in New Haven Connecticut. I am writing to express my concern for after school programs all over the state. After school programs are a vital part of education for students. It is in after school programs that students are able to explore, hone skills and interests and work in new ways with teachers and members of the community. For some students it is a big incentive to come to school.

I am currently working after school with a cast of students in a musical. They are developing skills that will last a lifetime. These students are working as an ensemble, learning to articulate and communicate in new ways, developing community, demonstrating commitment, hard work and dedication to see a project through. Many of them say that their participation in this is why they come to school. After school programs are VITAL to communities like New Haven, because it offers students opportunity where they may not have it otherwise; it gives our students a chance to grow; it keeps kids off the streets; it keeps kids making connections in their school coursework. Please do not cut after school funding.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Lindsey Bauer

Teacher

Cooperative Arts and Humanities High School